

throughout, declared that agreement had been reached. A general and a commercial treaty were signed on August 8th. A loan was to be guaranteed if and when a second treaty satisfactory to British creditors had been reached. Parliament adjourned on August 10th, after a short debate in which criticism outweighed approval. Opinion in commercial circles was almost unanimously hostile, and the Liberal leaders announced their opposition as loudly as the Conservatives. Since Labour was in a minority in the House of Commons and the country, the scheme had no chance of success. Before it could be submitted to Parliament, the MacDonald Government was defeated on a minor issue and swept away. The mystery of the Zinoviev letter to the British Communist Party, published by the Foreign Office on October 24th, was never cleared up. Rakovsky declared it a clumsy forgery, but the conviction that Russian communists were still intriguing against the security of the British Empire stampeded armies of voters into the Conservative camp.

Recognition was not formally annulled, but the treaties signed on August 8 were dropped and the brief *rapprochement* was at an end. In 1926 Russia, through the Comintern, supported the General Strike. In 1927 the Commercial Delegation in London was raided by the police and expelled, together with the Embassy staff, on the ground that a confidential document had been stolen. The Trade Agreement of 1921 was cancelled, but *de jure* recognition remained. On the return of the Labour Party to power in 1929, official relations were resumed and a new trade agreement was signed in 1930. The trial of British engineers in 1933 on charges of sabotage and espionage revived bitter feelings. Not till 1934, when Russia entered the League, did the thaw begin.

In March, 1935, Mr. Eden's visit to Moscow set the seal on official reconciliation, but the two peoples remained far apart.

IV. THE SETTLEMENT WITH TURKEY

A final settlement with the new Turkey was reached with less difficulty. The Treaty of Sevres was dictated by the Allies to a prostrate foe; but while the Government at Constantinople was signing the surrender, Mustapha Kemal raised the banner of independence in Asia Minor. France lost interest in the Greek cause when Constantine regained his throne in 1920, and in 1921 a Franco-Turkish agreement ended Anglo-French co-operation in the Near East. Mustapha's significance